

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in the present application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of parameter passing of data structures where an API and corresponding stored procedures are of at different version/release levels different from one another, the method comprising:

receiving ~~from~~ from a calling program, a data structure having ~~a plurality of~~ data structure elements used for communicating data between the stored procedures and the calling program;

~~first~~ parsing the data structure for a first version identifier of the data structure;

comparing the first version identifier of the parsed data structure to a second version identifier of the stored procedures, obtaining version control information from a library, and thereafter parsing data structure elements in accordance to an indication of data structure compatibility, wherein:

when said the comparing of the first version identifier with the second version identifier is indicative indicates compatibility of a data structure compatibility between said the calling program and said the stored procedures, second providing parsing all of the data structure elements of the data structure known to both of said calling program and said stored procedures; and, when said the comparing of the first version identifier with the second version identifier is indicative indicates incompatibility of a data structure incompatibility between

said the calling program and said the stored procedures, third providing parsing of only data structure elements of the data structure that are known to either of said the calling program and or said the stored procedures.

2. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said the indication comparing is indicative of a data structure compatibility results in a value of false incompatibility between said the calling program and said the stored procedures when the first version identifier is not located in the data structure by said first parsing absent.

3. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said the indication comparing is indicative of a data structure compatibility results in a value of true compatibility between said the calling program and said the stored procedures when the first version identifier matches the second version identifier.

4. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said the indication comparing is indicative of a data structure compatibility results in a value of false incompatibility between said the calling program and said the stored procedures when the first version identifier is determined to be at least one of:

the first version identifier less than the second version identifier;

the first version identifier is not located in the data structure by said first parsing absent; and

the first version identifier is greater than the second version identifier.

5. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 4, wherein ~~said the~~ third parsing of only the data structure elements of the data structure that are known to both of ~~said the~~ calling program and ~~said the~~ stored procedures includes:

third parsing only the data structure elements of the data structure that are known to the calling program when the first version identifier is less than the second version identifier.

6. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 4, wherein ~~said the~~ third parsing of only the data structure elements of the data structure that are known to both of ~~said the~~ calling program and ~~said the~~ stored procedures includes:

third parsing only the data structure elements of the data structure that are known to the stored procedures when the first version identifier is greater than the second version identifier.

7. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein ~~the receiving includes receiving the data structure~~ includes having a BLOB/CLOB pair.

8. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 7, wherein: the step of receiving the data structure including having the BLOB/CLOB pair includes: receiving a CLOB having at least one character data value; and receiving a BLOB having a version identifier, a data element ID for each respective character data value, a data

type for each respective character data value, and a data length for each respective character data value.

9. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 8, further comprising obtaining version control information from a: wherein the library further includes a library system control table, wherein a result of said comparing and the indication is based on the version control information obtained from the library system control table.

10-27. (Canceled)